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HIS MAJESTIES
MESSAGE

TO BOTH HOUSES
OF PARLIAMENT

May 5. 1643.

OCCASIONED.

By a Bill delivered to His Majesty
from both Houses, by Sir Robert King
Knight, and William Iepson, and
Arthur Hill Esquires,

ENTITLED,

AN ACT FOR THE
SPEEDY PAYMENT OF
Monies Subscribed towards the
reducing of the Rebels in Ireland,
which yet remain unpaid.

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AN ACT FOR THE
SPEEDY PAYMENT OF

N.C.
F.M.A.D.A.N.
OXFORD

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HIS MAJESTIES

GRATIOUS MESSAGE

to both Houses of PARLIAMENT

May the fifth, 1643.

His Majesty hath with great deliberation considered and weighed a Bill lately presented to Him by Sir Robert King Knight, and William Jephson, and Arthur Hill Esquires, from both Houses of Parliament, Entituled, *An Act for the speedy payment of Monies subscribed towards the reducing of the Rebels in Ireland, which yet remains unpaid.* And though in these miserable times of Distraction, when there are Armies (pretended to be levied by Order of both Houses) almost in every County

of the Kingdom, and all the good old Lawes, the observation whereof would preserve the publique Peace, violated and suppressed, when the Treaty hopefully begun towards a happy Peace is broken, and the Committee recalled by both Houses, as if they intended no further overture for laying downe Armes, but to decide all differences by the sword, The World will easily judge whether His Majesty might not well deny to consent to any new Act of Parliament, the much major part of both Houses being by force and violence driven and kept from those Counsells, & His Majesty Himselfe not suffered to be present, yet such is His Compassion of Soule towards His poore Protestant Subjects of that His Kingdome of *Ireland*, that He would gladly entertaine any expedient whereby it might be evident the Condition of that Kingdom might be relieved, and the distractions of this in no danger of being encreased. And therefore His Majesty desires to be satisfied in these particulars.

1. How the great and vast summes of Monies already raised by the severall Acts of Parliament for the relief of *Ireland*, and which by the Acts ought not to be employed to any other purpose then reducing the Rebels, untill they shall be declared

to be subdued, have been expended; His Majesty having been informed, that no less then one hundred thousand pounds of that Mony was by one Order of one or both Houses issued for the maintenance of the Army which hath given Him Battaille, under the Command of the Earle of Essex?

2. How His Majesty shall be secured that the mony, which by His Majesties consent shall be raised for the support of His Army in Ireland, shall not for the future be diverted from that use, and employed against Him in this Kingdom?

3. Whether it be just to compell His good Subjects who have subscribed, to pay thole subscriptions, when as at the time they did subscribe they conceived themselves absolved from their undertaking, if at any time they were content to forfeit the summe mentioned in that Act, for His Majesty doth not conceive that by that Act they are lyable to pay the whole subscriptions, but to submit to the penalty enjoined, and then His Majesty is not satisfied that by a new Law it can be just to compell them to what at the first they undertook voluntarily, and it may be, would not have undertaken but upon the liberty they conceived to be then left them?

4. Whether the power given by this new Bill to *Warner, Towne, and Andrews* (persons of whose Integrity and Affections to the publique Peace His Majesty is in no degree satisfied) be not too great, any certificate of theirs being ground enough to extend the Estate of any Subject in England, whether he ever underwrit or no?

5. Whether all Lands extended by virtue of this Act being to continue in Extent till all forfeitures be satisfied, it may not be very Prejudiciall to Creditors to whom those Lands are lyable, and so the common Justice may be disturbed?

6. Whether by this Act the Extents being not to be avoyded or delayed for omission of any Lands, the same may not be prejudiciall to all Purchasers, and whether it be not against the knowne course of the Law?

His Majesty desires to receive satisfaction from both Houses of Parliament in these particulars, with all possible expedition, and then He shall give all the World an accompt how sensible He is of the misery of *Ireland*, and how desirous He is to find or embrace any way for their releife, the best if not the only way to which His Majesty conceives would be by a good and blessed Accommodation of the lamentable distractions of this Kingdom,

(5)

Kingdome, which if the matter of His Majesties
last Message were so entertained, as His Majesty
hoped and expected, might, by the blessing of
God, in a short time be effected.

F I N I S
